

REMARKS

Claims 16-22 are pending in the present application, of which claims 17 and 22 are herein cancelled. Claims 23-32 have been newly added. Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

The Office Action rejected claims 17 and 22 under the doctrine of statutory double patenting over claims 1 and 6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,389,000 and rejected claims 16 and 18-21 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,389,000. Claims 17 and 22 are herein cancelled.

The Office Action rejected claims 16 and 18-21 under non-statutory type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 U.S. Patent No. 6,389,000. A terminal disclaimer was filed by Applicant on 9/18/2006 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) as to claims 16-22. In light of the cancellation of claims 17 and 22, as well as the previously filed terminal disclaimer, claims 16 and 18-21 in the application are submitted to be patentable over the prior art. Additionally, Applicant has added new independent claims 23 and 28 having substantially the same scope of independent claim 16. Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Applicant requests a two-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action dated February 9, 2007. Please charge the requisite extension fee, and any other fees associated with this paper, to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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